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Newsletter
Number 20
3 August 2012



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

.. To Hana Easton for efforts to profile our science fair exhibits at various sites in the town centre. This has been a lot of work for you (and Richard) and we are very grateful. The feedback we have received from those who have seen these exhibits has been very positive.

.. To those ladies who helped with this week's headlice inspection.

.. To those parents who assisted with transportation to, and supervision at, this week's middle school badminton tournament.

.. To Geoff Abbott who gave his precious time this week to adjudicate at our interschool debate. Geoff does a truly fantastic job.

People of the week

.. Our senior debating teams for fantastic performances at a debating competition against Bream Bay College this week (wins for both our year 7 and year 8 teams).

.. Those children who participated in the International Schools English Examination. This was in addition to regular workloads and reflects your commitment to improve. ... well done!

.. Those children who have gone out of their way to make our short stay Korean students feel so welcome.

.. Our middle school badminton teams - some of these teams were unbeaten in this week's competition.

.. Jazz for being a fantastic gentleman by opening the door for a teacher.

.. Tyrone & Jonno for helping a junior find a ring.

OUR COMMENCING VIRTUE THIS TERM IS ENTHUSIASM

If you have not yet done so please ..

.. take time to discuss this with your child(ren)

.. let us know of any special demonstrations of enthusiasm so that we can celebrate these through our newsletter.

Can you help?

We are currently assessing the viability / affordability of installing a new sandpit near the junior school .. not only do children love sandpits, sandpits can also be used during developmental learning time.

The plan is to do phase one ourselves (soon) and then undertake a phase two upgrade when we can afford this. If we can do phase one ourselves we stand to make considerable savings (which can be spent on learning resources) as well as benefit the children in the junior school right now. We are interested in hearing from people ..

.. who have / have access to a digger or bobcat and who can spend an hour or two digging our hole.

.. who are willing to help construct some timber sidings for the pit

.. who are willing to help out with the spreading of sand

.. who maybe can get some largish rocks (size to be determined)

.. who can maybe help with materials

We don't want to call on the same parents all the time but if you think you may be able to help please email Kevin on principal@matarau.school.nz or on 4335823. Thank you!

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School Cross Country - 7 August (pp 8.8)

We hope you can spend a portion of our Cross Country day with us. For those new to the school this event is held on the farm opposite the school and the day breaks down roughly as follows..

(Note : approximate times only - Presentation at 2:40pm : ages are at 1 January 2012)

11/12/13 year old girls	11/12/13 year old boys	9/10 year old girls	9/10 year old boys
- 12:40	- 12:50	- 1:05	- 1:15
8 year old girls	8 year old boys	Year 3 girls	Year 3 boys
- 1:30	- 1:40	- 1:50	- 2:00
Year 2 girls	Year 2 boys	Year 0/1 girls	Year 0/1 boys
- 2:10	- 2:15	- 2:20	- 2:25

This year the kindergarten will join us for their run which is scheduled for 2:30pm.

Parents are asked to ensure please that children bring shorts, a sweatshirt, inhalers (where relevant), raincoat, a drink bottle, old shoes, a plastic bag for dirty clothes and a change of clothes as a precaution.

This year's Cross Country is sponsored by Whangarei Physiotherapy.

Whangarei Interschool Cross Country - Barge Park - 7 Sept

Selection for this event will be based largely on performance at our school event with the first 4 place getters (year 4 and up) qualifying to represent our school. Consents will be sent out subsequent to our school event for return a.s.a.p. please. Any questions please to Mr D.

Taniwha Challenge (Zone Cross Country) TeHoro School - 16.8

Consents for this event have been sent home for those interested in this event (**years 4 to 8 only**) - if your child did not bring a consent form home, and you would like them to attend this event, please phone the school office on Monday. Please ensure consents are returned by next Friday - 10 August. Children likely to represent our school at Barge Park are especially encouraged to attend. Please note that, as this is an optional event, there will be a fee to cover the cost of bus transport. **If ordering hangi meals money must also be in to the office by 10 August please.**

Coming up this term

6 August	Excellere College, Matarau info afternoon, 2pm
7 August	School Cross Country
8 August	Whangarei Girls' High School Open Evening
9 August	KHS Open Night
9 August	WBHS Matarau Info afternoon 2pm
10 August	Mathex (1:30 PM)
13 August	School photos
14 August	International Schools Mathematics Examination
14 August	WGHS enrolment interviews
14 August	WBHS Open Evening
15 August	KHS Meet the Principal & Senior Mgrs, Matarau 7pm
16 August	Zone Cross Country (Taniwha Challenge at TeHoro School)
23 August	Senior abseiling at Waipu
27 August	Regional Science and Technology Fair
28 August	Children year 6 and up visit the Regional Science Fair
30 August	KHS enrolment interviews
1 September	Trivia Night
5 September	Senior girls HPV dose 3
7 September	Interschool Cross Country at Barge Park
9-14 September	AIMS Games
21 September	Northland Cross Country
24 September	School Production week .. performances to be confirmed
26 September	Shake Out Day .. more to follow
28 September	Final day of term 3

Matarau Hockey - Sponsored by McQuinn Ground Spread

Well Done to the following players of the Day Saturday 28 July :



C Grade - Tylar



D Grade - Jessica



E Grade - Nicole

Matarau Netball

Well Done to the following players of the Day Saturday 28 July:



Yr 4-6 - Emma



Yr 6-8 - Georgia

Parents of year 8 (and maybe year 7) children

.. are asked to take particular note of the visit by staff and students from Excellere College (2:00pm Monday 6/8) and WBHS (Thursday 9/8 1:30pm). This is a good opportunity to get a feel for what these schools have to offer. Any questions to Mr D please.

Mathex

A number of students have been selected to represent our school at the Regional Mathex Competition to be held at Whangarei Boys High School on Friday 10 August. Events are staggered as follows ..

Year 5 and 6	2:30 (be there by 2:00)	Year 7	4:10 (be there by 3:45)
Year 8	5:10 (be there by 4:45)		

Please note that children need to be at the event prior to starting time and that parents are asked to assist please with transport (if unable to assist with transport please arrange pickup from Kamo McDonalds as close as possible to 6:30pm). Any questions in the run up to this event to Mr D please.

After School Care.

We have a parent interested in providing After School Care for children in their family home on a private basis, pick up after school, snacks provided, homework attended. This parent has relevant experience, has been police vetted by the school and is available to start immediately. If interested please contact - Carol Welsh at home: 4335035 or Cell: 021 0817 9805

Going For Gold

It's great to see so many children so enthusiastic about reading their way to a medal. We have a few bronze medallists already - keep up the good work.



Ministrel

Children have been invited to write a fishing story by the Ministrel when he last visited the school recently. The prize is a super fishing rod. Please get your stories in to Mrs Robertson by Friday 17th August.

International Schools Maths Competitions

The International Schools Maths Exam is scheduled for 14 August and so there is still time for a couple more practice papers. These are available from the school office .. we will do our best to chase up the stragglers.

Milk in Schools

If you are available to help with distribution (Monday and Wednesday around 10:30) please contact Sharon Smith on 027 631 9361. If you wish your child to receive milk please contact the office if you haven't already, or if your child's wishes to opt-out please contact the office.

PMP

We need a parent helper for Tuesdays from 1.30pm to 3.00 to assist with PMP, please leave your name with Helen at the office or see Rachael Robertson if you can help out.

Scholastic Book Club

Issue #5 brochures were issued to classes last week, orders need to be at the office Friday 10th August.

Headlice Inspection

This week's inspection indicated moderate levels of infestation. Parents who have been advised of infestation (or suspected infestation) are asked to take immediate action please before their child returns to school. These children will be re-checked in a week's time. All parents are encouraged to check their children's hair weekly and to take prompt action in the event of infestation. General adherence to this approach usually keeps levels very low for the remainder of the term.

Mrs Witte .. for those who missed this last week!

If you think you can make it to Mrs Witte's farewell morning tea at 10.30am on Tuesday 14 August please give Helen a call **next week** so we can confirm catering arrangements. This is an opportunity for us to celebrate Mrs Witte's contributions to our school and to extend our best wishes.

Ballot for Out of Zone Students 2013

.. will likely be advertised fairly soon once we have confirmed dates with adjoining schools. We are more than happy to answer any questions and to show people around the school. All out of zone places for years 1 to 6 were taken this year and so it is a good idea for parents to apply by the due dates (this year) to avoid disappointment. **If you know of anyone who might be interested please ask them to contact our school office.**

School Photos

Will be held on the morning of Monday 13th August here at school. Order forms were sent home earlier this week with the eldest in the family. Use the 1 form for the family. Orders and money need to be at the office by next Friday 10th August. Money must be sent in with the order. Please contact the office for an appointment (between 8.30 and 9am) if you would like a family portrait photo taken. School sports team (hockey & netball), school council, action research and science fair representatives and debating team photos can be ordered on the reverse of the order form.

Parent support with fundraising

A huge thank you to those parents who assist with fund-raising efforts .. efforts which help us to provide resources and learning opportunities which would not otherwise be possible. **Parent feedback in past years has consistently told us that people are willing to help when the load is spread, when they are not called on too often, and when they can choose what they are involved in.** Accordingly our policy is to approach parents only once a year in an area where they previously indicated a willingness to be involved. So .. if you receive advice of a forthcoming fund-raising event, it is because you have earlier advised this was your chosen area. We understand that sometimes lives get very busy but please support where you can. If you would like to become involved in a different (or additional) area please contact Sharon Smith on 4338371 or 027 631 9361. An additional thanks to our Trivia team .. off to a fantastic start.

Finally

SOME MORE AIRLINE HUMOUR Qantas Airlines: Repair Division

After every flight, Qantas pilots fill out a form, called a "Gripe Sheet" which tells mechanics about problems with the aircraft. The mechanics correct the problems; document their repairs on the form, and then pilots review the Gripe Sheets before the next flight. Never let it be said that ground crews lack a sense of humour. Here are some **actual** maintenance complaints submitted by Qantas' pilots (marked with a P) and the solutions recorded (marked with an S) by maintenance engineers. By the way, Qantas is the only major airline that has never, ever, had an accident. WILL FEED YOU ONE A WEEK.

P: Something loose in the cockpit.

S: Something tightened in the cockpit.

Remember .. don't forget to keep 7 August free (pp 8.8)
to attend our School Cross Country.

Have a great weekend!

Regards,
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

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Community Notices

Home based child care – Police checked - ages 0-5 - 5 years experience. Contact Toni 433 5596 or 021 176 9153.

For Sale – border collie pups, 1 x male red & white; 2 x female black & white; 3 x male black & white; \$550 for B/W; \$650 for R/W, Ready to go 21st August. Call Mandy on 435 0559 or 021 101 8361

Parenting Toolbox sessions – Join a Toolbox parenting group and learn how to build a great family team. Discover new parenting ideas and discuss successful strategies in a six week group course. Toolbox groups are free of charge to whanau caregivers, foster carers, adopters, grandparents raising grandchildren and Home for Life parents thanks to government funding. If you would like more information about Toolbox parenting groups in Northland contact Debbie Short 09 433 5040

Art Competition for Calf Club – Children rearing a calf for calf club can enter this competition, www.calfclub.co.nz for more details. Win prizes for you, your parents and your school.

Meadow Fresh Promotion – Collect yellow Cool Stuff for Kids stickers found on specially stickered Meadow fresh milk and yoghurt packs. Stickers must be at school by Friday 19th October.

Bobby Calf Fundraiser – AFFCO NZ Ltd is again running the Cash for schools bobby calf fundraising programme this season. This is a fantastic opportunity to generate cash for the school. Last year AFFCO NZ Ltd donated more than \$100,000 to local schools as a result of the programme. All you have to do is register your bobby calves with AFFCO NZ Ltd for the current season, and nominate our school for the donation. It doesn't cost you anything because AFFCO NZ Ltd pays the donation over and above normal supplier payments. If you don't have a dairy farm, then sign up your neighbours, friends and whanau.

GREAT NIGHT OUT – Please support our Kamo Magpies JB7s rugby team (quite a few ex Matarau boys are in this team) – raise money for their end of season trip. We are selling tickets for a social – will be a great night out. 18th August, 7pm til late. Band – Gravel Road; \$30 each ticket. Cash bar. See Shirley Perris at school or text her on 021 1152 138.

School Fundraising

Raffle Tickets

Still some tickets outstanding – please please return all sold or unsold tickets to the office early next week. The raffle will be drawn next week under police supervision! Many thanks for supporting our fundraising efforts.



Matarau's Annual Community Trivia Night Fundraiser

1st September 2012, Matarau School Hall



Can You Help Please!

Our Annual Trivia Night is fast approaching - anyone able to help out with our Trivia Night this year would be greatly appreciated. This is a big fundraiser for the school and we are grateful for any help given big or small

We need help finding

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ✓ Table Sponsors | ✓ Prizes (big & small) |
| ✓ Assembly of prize packages | |
| ✓ Setup the day before | ✓ Cleanup the day after |

Please ask your employer or businesses to be a sponsor or if they can donate a prize. We have letters available at the office to send out to potential sponsors or prize donators.

This is the school's biggest fundraiser and we need to raise as much money to help our kids as possible. We already have a small team together so you won't be landed with everything!

Tickets will be available for purchase at the school office next week, get your team together and get ready for a fun night out. Supper provided, but BYO drinks.

Contact Wendy Francis on 435 4659 if you have any queries or for further details.